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July 31, 2008

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Tina Robinson
Division of Water Pollution Control
Johnson City Environmental Field Office
TN Department of Environment and Conservation
2305 Silverdale Road
Johnson City, TN 37601-2162

**JOHNSON CITY ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSISTANCE CENTER**

RE: SOP-79049

Dear Ms. Robinson:

This is a response regarding the corrective action plan related to Airgas' lime slurry pond located at 445 Industry Drive, Kingsport, TN 37660.

Corrective Action Plan

1. Airgas has decided not to conduct the dye test that was discussed at the July 15th meeting.
2. Airgas will design, bid, contract and have a decant tank system installed to collect the lime slurry produced by the acetylene manufacturing process. The lime slurry from the process will continue to be hauled to customers for beneficial use.
3. Prior to, during and following the installation of the decant storage tanks, Airgas will continue hauling lime slurry from the existing permitted lime pond until the lime is removed from the pond. This may require adding water to the pond to get a lime slurry consistency which can be pumped and which is acceptable to our beneficial use customers.
4. Upon approval by the state of satisfactory removal of the lime slurry from the pond, the pond will be filled and closed in accordance with state regulations.
5. Estimated Timeframe
 - a) Design, bid, contract and installation of decant tank system – 4-6 months
 - b) Removal of lime slurry from lime pond and closure of lime pond – 9-12 months

If you should have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Steve Warner
Division Operations Manager

cc: Jim Lord (Airgas Mid-America, Inc.) and Shon Pritchard (Tysinger Hampton & Partners)